IN THE CLAIMS:

 (Currently Amended) A structure for use as a tree well skirt or sidewalk, comprising:

a <u>porous</u> base layer of <u>a combination of butadiene</u> rubber <u>granules and peelings or buffings</u>, and a first binder; and; first binder, the combination of butadiene rubber granules and peelings or buffings being varied in amount relative to one another to increase or decrease the porosity of the base layer; and

a wear layer of ethylene propylene diene monomer (EPDM) and a second binder on top of the base layer.

- 2. (Cancelled)
- (Currently Amended) The structure of claim [[2]] 1 wherein the butadiene rubber is recycled vehicle tires or industrial rubber.
- (Currently Amended) The structure of claim [[2]] 1 wherein the first binder is isocyanate polyurethane.
- (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 4 wherein the ratio of the first binder to butadiene rubber in the base layer is 16% by weight.
 - 6. (Cancelled)
- (Currently Amended) The structure of claim [[6]] 1 wherein the <u>butadiene</u> rubber granules of <u>butadiene</u> rubber are in the range of 1.5 mm to 6 mm, inclusive.

2

- 8. (Cancelled)
- 9. (Cancelled)

8944496

- (Currently Amended) The structure of claim [[9]] 1 wherein the mixture combination of granules to peelings or buffings is 70% granules and 30% peelings or buffings.
- 11. (Currently Amended) The structure of claim [[9]] 1 where the mixture combination of granules to peelings or buffings is 50% granules and 50% peelings or buffings.
- (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 10 or 11 wherein the butadiene rubber is recycled vehicle tires or industrial rubber.
- (Currently Amended) The structure of claim [[2]] 1 wherein the base layer is one and one-half to three and one-half inches thick.
- (Currently Amended) The structure of claim [[2]] \(\frac{1}{2}\) wherein the base layer is two
 inches thick.
- 15. (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 1 wherein the second binder of the wear layer is isocyanate polyurethane.
- (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 15 wherein the ratio of the second binder to EPDM is 20% by weight.
 - 17. (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 16 wherein the EPDM is granular.
- (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 17 wherein the granules are in the range of 1.5 mm to 6 mm in diameter, inclusive.
- (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 1 wherein the binder of the wear layer contains aliphatic diisocyanate.
- (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 19 wherein the EPDM is granular and the granules are in the range of 1.5 mm to 6 mm in diameter, inclusive.
- 21. (Previously Presented) The structure of claim 1 wherein the base layer is two inches to three inches thick and the wear layer is three-eighths to one-half inch thick.

3

8944496